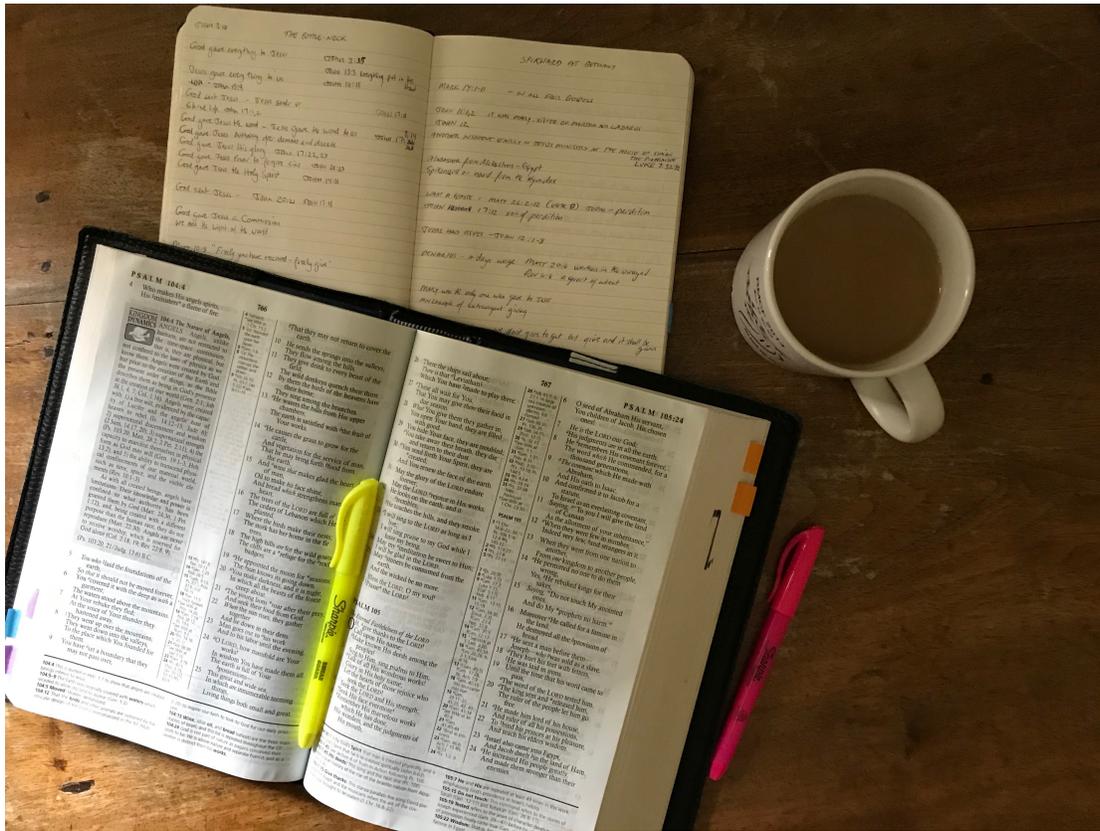


# WORDSMITH PUBLISHING

## A BOOK CATALOG OF BOOKS BY PENN CLARK



## INTRODUCTION

“One day, as I walked down a busy street, my eye caught a sign in a shop window that said, “Rare Old Books.” I thought to myself, That’s the kind I want to write! Rare because they are not just saying what everyone says or what we want to hear, and old because they bear fruit that remains and stand the test of time.

Don’t get me wrong. I harbor no illusions of becoming a popular author. My goals are modest, but I believe God-given. I want to write discipleship books that contain fresh perspective and release relevant truths to challenge us to be all we can be. I want to be an example of how to handle the Word of God with integrity so that others will want to do the same.

To accomplish this, our church in Penn Yan, WellSpring Fellowship, has started its own publishing company. This allows us to use the teaching materials I have been working on for the past thirty-five years as the curriculum for our discipleship program and to extend our mission to places where I physically cannot go. So we have decided to invest our own time and money to get these books prepared and printed. We believe that publishing this material is part of our ongoing purpose and calling. We have assembled a small team of international partners to help us accomplish this vision.

Here are a few goals we are working toward:

1. One goal is make these studies available in Spanish, Portuguese, French, and Hindi or Oriya in India. Most of our books have been translated into Spanish. We realize how difficult an undertaking this is. We could use your prayers for this to happen.
2. We have also established a web-based book store as our primary point of distribution. ([www.wordsmith-py.com](http://www.wordsmith-py.com) We also use Amazon and Kindle, and Essence Publishing in Canada.) This website needs ongoing development so we would like to find someone with technical skills to help us with this. By the way, feel free to share this website with those who you think might benefit from this kind of teaching material.
3. We are about half-way to our goal of having about thirty books in our curriculum series. We do not profit from our book sales, nor do I get an income from the books, but instead we are personally investing in these projects to make more books available. Stand with us in prayer, so that together we can make the Kingdom a little larger, one heart at a time.

*With every blessing, Penn Clark*

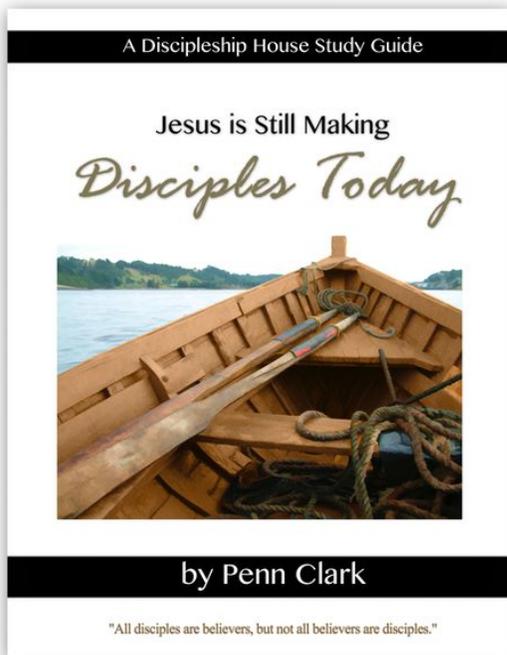
## JESUS IS STILL MAKING DISCIPLES TODAY

### *All Disciples Are Believers, But Not All Believers Are Disciples*

One aspect of the Great Commission is to make disciples. I believe this means helping people actually become disciples of the living Christ. It is amazing to me that Jesus is still calling and training disciples today, just as He did two-thousand years ago. The only difference now is that He is invisible. He relates to us in the same way today as He did to His disciples when He walked along the shores of Galilee. He spent time with them, allowed them ask questions, taught them about the Kingdom of God. If we embrace the process, He will train and equip us the same way He did the original Twelve. This has been my experience and something I want others to experience.

In our present culture, there are few parallels to help us understand the original concept of discipleship. The idea of apprenticeship is close, but not close enough. In the oriental culture of

Jesus' day, a philosopher, sacred author, or teacher would have students join him for a period of time, abandoning everything else in order to learn the special knowledge he had attained. The master would personally tutor a disciple or pupil. The student would receive both oral teaching as well as hands-on practice under the watchful eye of the tutor. Originally, disciples were students of a walking school, who imitated their teacher's daily disciplines in order to acquire his wisdom, spiritual insights, or power. This was based on the simple idea that, if a student was going to fully comprehend what the teacher knew, he would have to do what the teacher had done.



These study notes help frame the subject of discipleship in a practical way, inspiring anyone who is called to be His disciple today to understand what it looks like in everyday life. In

these notes, we also get to see how each of the Five Disciplines—Giving, Prayer, Fasting, Study, and Rest—help us to live ordered, disciplined, and effective lives without the condemnation that usually follows.

At the same time, discipleship really isn't about a program; it's about a Person named Jesus Christ. I simply have endeavored to create a study that enables you to become more familiar with this Person and to understand what it means to be disciplined by Him. Inside, you will discover:

- The difference between being a believer and being a disciple

- The cost of being a disciple
- The benefits of being a disciple
- The five disciplines of being a disciple
- And so much more!

This book contains many practical assignments to do and an extensive question and answer section which helps to clarify my unique perspective and shed even more light on the subject.

The book “Making Disciples Today” frames the subject of discipleship in a practical way, inspiring anyone who is called to be a disciple of Christ to understand just what that looks like in everyday life.

This 8.5 X 11 book is beautifully printed and is over a 100 pages in length.

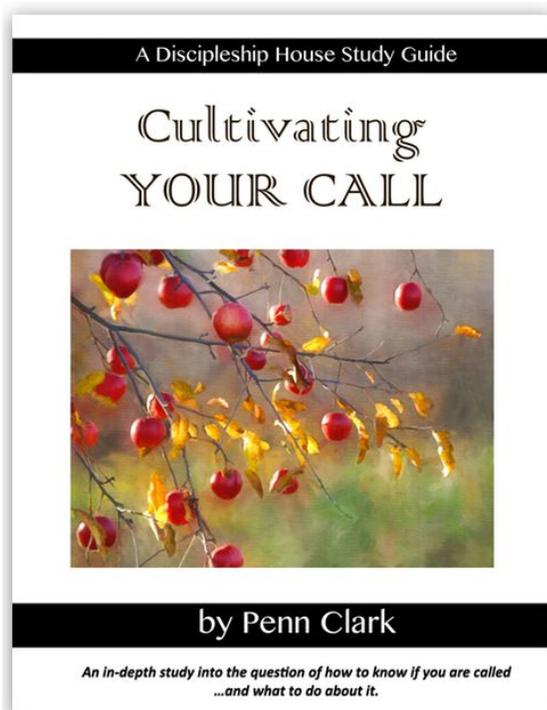
This book is now available as an ebook and has been translated into Oriya and Spanish.

## CULTIVATING YOUR CALL

### *An In-depth Study into the Question of How to Know if You Are Called... and What to Do About it?*

In this study guide, I tackle the issue of how to know if you are called and what to do about it. Short of going to Bible school or seminary, this study shows you many practical things you can now to help cultivate your call and prepare for ministry.

I use my own testimony of how God called me, confirmed it along the way, and led me through an incremental process that brought me into the ministry I walk in today.



I take time to establish the concept that everything God does is a co-operative effort: He has His part, and we have ours. If we ever confuse the two, we will not come into what God has for us.

These notes provide a Biblical basis for the premise that while we may feel called, God wants to establish this in a way that is obvious to others. He always establishes what He has said or is saying. This should allow us to be free of manipulation and self-promotion. These notes deal with the delicate issue of presumption, where people ordain themselves to the ministry rather than waiting for God to invite them to the table.

There is an order to ordination. First, it happens in our hearts. Then, the Lord uses other men who can perceive our call and readiness to set us into a place of ministry. In a section called "Walking with

Your Shoes on the Wrong Feet," Penn address the frustration of how some who are called end up doing ministry that God has not purposed for them to do.

This book contains many practical assignments to do and an extensive question and answer section which helps to clarify my unique perspective and shed even more light on the subject.

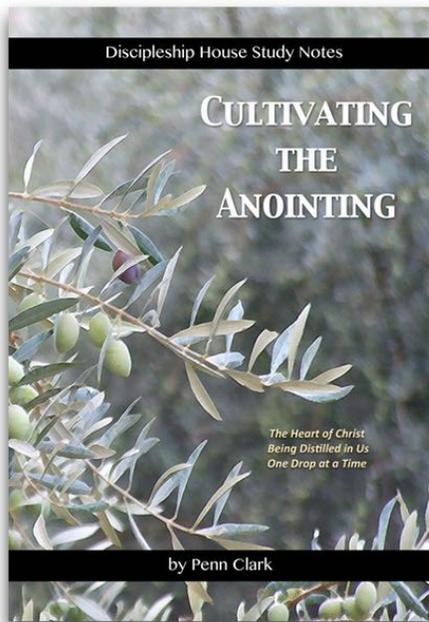
This 8.5 X 11 book is beautifully printed and is over a 100 pages in length.

This book is now available as an ebook and in Spanish.

## CULTIVATING THE ANOINTING

### *The Heart of Christ Being Distilled in Us One Drop at a Time*

When I was a young disciple, I often heard people talk about the anointing, but I couldn't find anyone who could explain it to me. No one seemed to know what it was. I had many questions about this spiritual experience, as I often heard it alluded to, yet I never once heard a sermon about it nor could I put my hands on a book about it. I wanted to know how to get this "anointing" and how to increase it in my life. Then, when I got it, I wanted to understand how I would keep from losing it. I wondered if the anointing was a special work of the Holy Spirit. And if so, I wanted to know why Paul didn't teach the Corinthians about it while he was explaining the various ways the Holy Spirit manifested His power in our lives, or for that matter, why Jesus hadn't told His disciples how to cultivate it. When I first searched the Scriptures about what the anointing does, I could scarcely find anything, so then I began to wonder why the anointing was mentioned more in Charismatic circles than it was in the Bible.



In time, after a good search of the Scriptures, I came to a place where I could finally put these questions to rest. I was able to build a solid biblical understanding of this wonderful work of grace in my life known as *the anointing*. Furthermore, I discovered, both by study and by experience, how essential the anointing is whenever we pray, preach, or prophesy. This study provided me with the practical steps I needed to begin intentionally cultivating the anointing within me, and now, I trust it will do the same for you.

These study notes chronicle my search for a definition of the anointing that is both practical and biblical.

I have been walking in this understanding of the anointing for over thirty years now and can look back to see how much it has enriched my life. I continue to search, but so far have not come across another concept that has inspired me to cultivate the anointing in my life. I hope you find it to be helpful in your own life and ministry.

This book contains many practical assignments to do and an extensive question and answer section which helps to clarify my unique perspective and shed even more light on the subject.

This book is part of a series of studies that Penn has prepared disciples or for those who are preparing for ministry. This 5 X 7 book is beautifully printed and is about 60 pages in length.

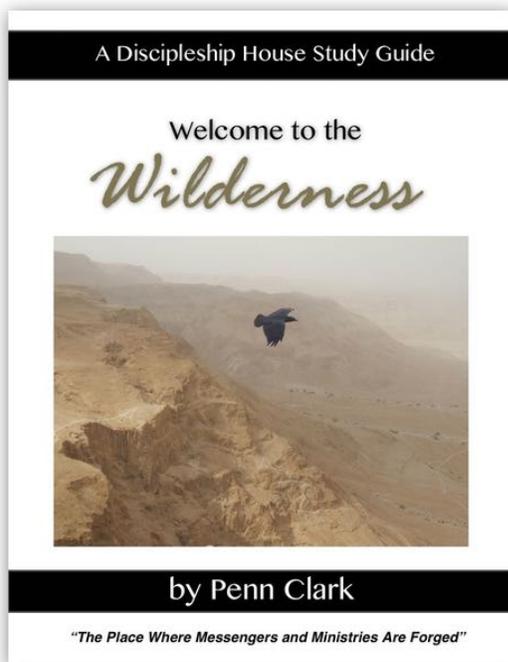
This book is now available as an ebook and in Spanish

## WELCOME TO THE WILDERNESS

### *The Place Where Messengers and Ministries Are Forged*

The first prophecy I ever received from the Lord mentioned that I would need to spend much time in the wilderness as part of my formation and preparation. I understood that the wilderness was not a geographic location but a spiritual experience, and that it should not be dreaded or resented. Furthermore, the Lord helped me to see that it was the place where messengers and ministries were formed. It would be the place where things would be subtracted from my life and replaced by other things. He promised me that He wouldn't ask me to give up anything without His replacing it with something better.

It turned out that many of my desert experiences meant going through a time without hearing God's voice or enjoying any visitation. Of course, this only caused me to long for both and enabled me to more deeply appreciate both after things returned to normal. I had to learn how to put down spiritual roots in order to survive any spiritual condition I would face. I would need to learn how to live by faith and not rely on my feelings. The wilderness became for me the place where I began to learn to discern His voice and learn the sweetness of surrender.



If you are not currently in the wilderness, this book may be of little value now, but please don't allow that to keep you from continuing in this study. The truths herein will be most helpful and comforting for you when you do experience the wilderness. I believe this guide will be a go-to resource for you while you journey in the various wildernesses ordered for your life.

If, on the other hand, you are in the wilderness now, then you know it can be a very disconcerting time—a time when you need an experienced fellow traveler to encourage you. I hope you find, in this guide, someone who can relate to the wilderness experience, who can put into words what you are going through, who can add more biblical perspective to your experience, and who has come out the other side of it with a shining face and burning heart. At this time in your journey, I pray this book is as life-giving as finding a stream in the desert.

In this book, I have written a descriptive account of what the wilderness is and what it is not, both from my own experience and from the examples of men of God found throughout the Bible, whose lives were transformed by their own wilderness experience. There is a strong Biblical precedent that shows how God uses time spent in the wilderness to make men and women into vessels He can use. Yet, it would be wrong for me to suggest that it is the

wilderness itself that transforms anybody. Too people have gone through the wilderness, both with Moses and David, who were not changed at all or used by God in any special way. This is just as true today. I have seen many people enduring hardship but not growing much from it.

A large part of our preparation for ministry or coming into our calling is spent waiting. I have written extensively about this, showing how it can be a powerful tool in the hands of God to change and perfect us. Yet again, it is not the waiting that does this, but it is submitting to the process and learning to wait well, that is so useful to God. Waiting properly is not easy to do, which is why I call it the work of waiting. If it were easy, everyone would be doing it. Learning to wait well can make all the difference between our being fruitful and effective in ministry or not. I trust this study guide will inspire you to be all that God has called you to be.

This book contains many practical assignments to do and an extensive question and answer section which helps to clarify my unique perspective and shed even more light on the subject.

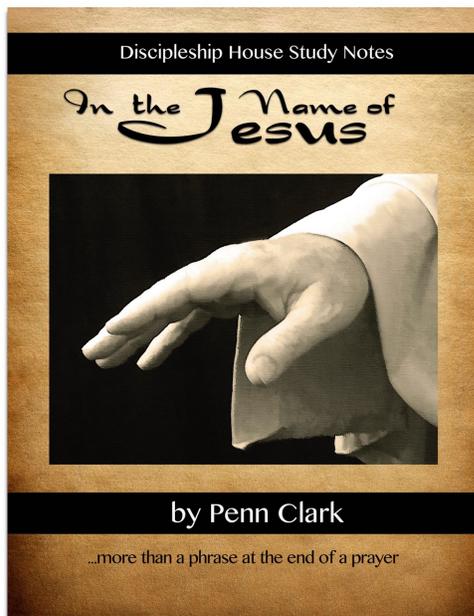
This book is part of a series of studies that Penn has prepared disciples or for those who are preparing for ministry. This 8.5 X 11 book is beautifully printed and is over a 100 pages in length.

This book is now available as an ebook in Spanish.

## IN THE NAME OF JESUS

*...more than a phrase at the end of a prayer*

As a young disciple, it began to dawn on me what Jesus meant when He told us to pray and minister “in His name.” I realized that we had been given something wonderful—the great privilege of being able to stand before God “in Jesus’ name.” I also became aware that He never intended for us to simply tack the phrase on the end of our prayers as we do today. I became more emboldened in this belief when I noticed how Paul’s prayers, which were written in his epistles, never ended with the phrase at all.



As I listened to people pray, I began to notice how they seemed to tag on “in Jesus’ name” at the end of their prayers. It reminded me of how we write letters, fold them and put them in an addressed envelope, and then place a stamp on it before mailing it. “In Jesus’ name” seemed to act like a stamp. If their prayers didn’t have the “stamp,” then Jesus didn’t receive or act upon their prayers.

The more I studied what Jesus taught, I began to understand He was saying that, if we would pray for what He would pray for—in the way He would pray for it—the Father would hear our prayers as if He were asking. It would be the same as if Jesus were doing it. This way, His ministry would continue through us. This is why Jesus could so freely assure us that, if we asked *anything* in His name, *He would do it*.

Before you read any further, let me state upfront that I am not suggesting we stop using the phrase, “In the name of Jesus,” at the end of our prayers, but instead I am suggesting that we use it to remind ourselves of the kind of heart condition needed—one of having faith in His person, character, and authority—so we can approach God with more confidence when we pray. If we do this, it will help us to believe that we can have all of our prayers answered.

This book also contains a study on how the incarnation and our identification with Christ can serve as powerful motivators for what we do in His name.

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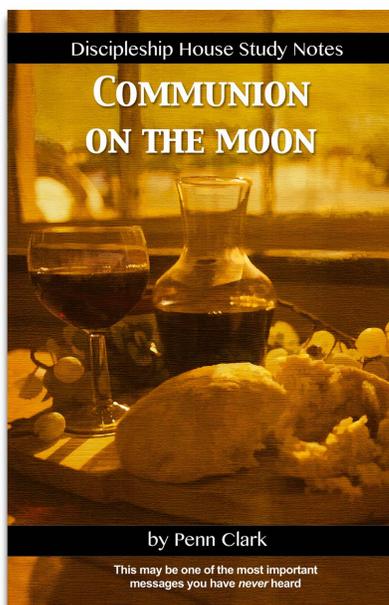
This book is now available as an ebook and in Spanish.

## COMMUNION ON THE MOON

### *Recovering the Real Purpose for Communion*

The title of this book comes from one of the first things man did when he landed on the moon in the summer of 1969, which was to take communion. When I first read about this little footnote in history, it reminded me of how some Christians take communion today. They are

alone, sitting in darkness, remaining aloof from the rest of the Body. They are unable to enter into real fellowship with others, walled-in by unresolved conflicts. Worse yet, they are unable to enter into the fullest fellowship with Jesus, which is communicated through His Body. Although these same people wouldn't miss a communion service, they might as well be taking communion on the moon!



Jesus said that communion was to be done *“in remembrance of”* Him. Do you think He was concerned that the Twelve might actually forget Him? Paul wrote to the Corinthians about the revelation Jesus gave him regarding communion, but I don't think he did this because he was concerned that this first century church might forget Jesus or what He did on the cross. The part they were forgetting, to a startling degree, was *why* they were to take communion. The same thing happens in our

churches today, where people take it out of routine, as if it were just a religious ritual. This can eclipse the real reason behind it.

Personally, I have never taken communion once to remind myself about Jesus. I have never had any trouble remembering who He is or what He did on the cross. What I do forget, almost daily, is the fact that how I treat others is really how I treat Jesus. I need a regular reminder of this. For me, communion has a practical purpose that can impact my spiritual and physical health.

Here are some of the benefits of taking communion:

- It can help us treat our spouses differently, sparing our families from the needless devastation of divorce.
- It can help us view our children differently, so we can begin to relate to them differently.
- We need to take it to help us to begin to restore broken relationships.
- We need to take it in order to begin to see the troubled people in our churches

differently.

- We need to take it to see the church we left differently.
- We need to take it to see the church across the street differently.
- We need to use it to recover our health, when all other forms of healing elude us.
- It can break down the pride and prejudice that separates us other groups and cultures.
- We need to take it to break the spiritual impotence in our lives and in our churches.

In many of our churches, we take communion selfishly. By this I mean we often are told by the pastor to take time to remember that Jesus died “for us” before we partake of the cup and the bread. While this is true, this was not Paul’s emphasis when writing to the believers at Corinth. We will discover, within the pages of this study, how Paul used communion to help believers remember how they should treat each other. He actually used communion to resolve church conflict. It certainly can be used to reflect upon the forgiveness Jesus provided through His shed blood. Yet, if that is all we remember, seeing how it might only benefit us, it’s selfish. So often we forget that Jesus died for those we are struggling with or dividing from.

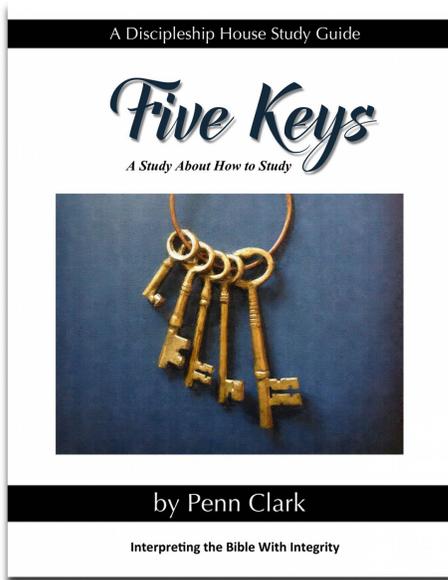
This book is part of a series of studies that Penn has prepared disciples or for those who are preparing for ministry. This 5 X 7 book is beautifully printed and is about 60 pages in length.

This book is now available as an ebook and in Spanish, French, and Portuguese.

## FIVE KEYS: A STUDY ABOUT HOW TO STUDY

### *Interpreting the Bible with Integrity*

There is a great need in the Church today to study God's Word, but there is also a great need to learn how to study it. Just as there are commonly held principles that guide us in almost everything we do—from using a chainsaw to using a sewing machine—there must be guiding principles about how to study and interpret the Bible.



If we can agree on safe standards of interpretation, then perhaps we can approach the same text and come away with similar conclusions about it. Studying the Bible is such a subjective experience that we need a set of objective rules that can be applied in a simple way.

Some people may object to using any methodology at all, saying that we only need to rely upon the Holy Spirit, but in reality, we all use some kind of method to study, whether we know it or not, or whether it is safe or not. In fact, most of the really strange theology I have encountered through the years was supposed to have come straight from the Holy Spirit, so I think we can fall into error anytime we lean too heavily upon either methodology or super-spirituality.

At the same time, even if we had a thousand keys to unlock the meaning of Scripture, they would be useless in our hands if we did not know how to humbly rely upon the Holy Spirit to teach and guide us in our understanding of the very Book He authored. Jesus promised the Holy Spirit would teach us and lead us into all truth (John 14:26; 16:24) for which we should be deeply grateful and upon which we should be utterly dependent.

The basis for some of the keys of interpretation that I am presenting in this study guide can be found in Scripture itself. The remaining keys are based upon common sense, being widely accepted by most Christians since the beginning of the Church. Just like the set of keys on the cover of this book, the keys of interpretation range in size, indicating their importance. Some keys are used more often than the others, but each one is useful to help open up our understanding of the Bible.

The following lists the basic rules for studying the Bible that I have used through the years and found to be very helpful in my own study:

Key 1. Find two or three witnesses.

Key 2. Look at the context.

Key 3. Consider what the original language meant.

Key 4. Discover the author's original intent.

Key 5. Use the whole of Scripture to find meaning.

I have found that these few, simple keys, used in any combination, can help us safely interpret the Bible, opening it up to us for our understanding.

In related studies, I have made online notes available for anyone who wants to learn how to use a Strong's Concordance. This is illustrated by a study I did on the Shroud of Turin. I also make available a list of other on-line study tools that I use every day, and recommend to you for your own study. I also posted an extensive bible study to help pastors deal with false teaching in their churches, called "The Right Way to Deal with Wrong Teaching".

This book is part of a series of studies that Penn has prepared disciples or for those who are preparing for ministry. This 8.5 X 11 book is beautifully printed and is over a 100 pages in length.

This book is now available as an ebook in Spanish.

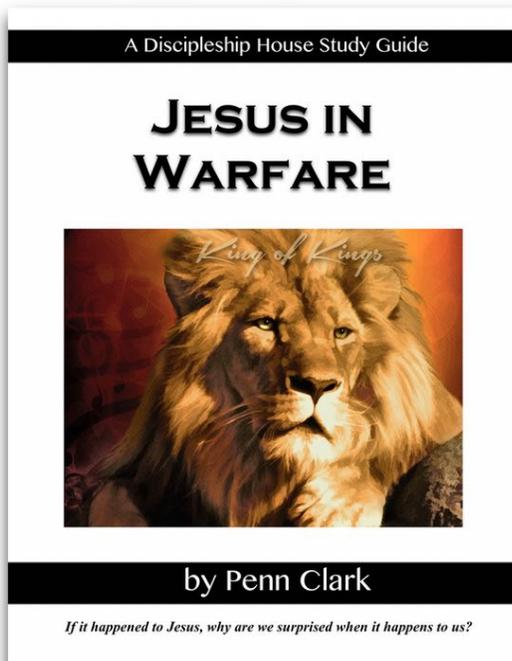
## JESUS IN WARFARE

### *If it happened to Jesus, why are we surprised when it happens to us?*

During a time when I felt particularly embattled in my ministry, I decided to study what Jesus taught and demonstrated in terms of personal spiritual warfare. I took a paperback edition of the Bible and, with an orange highlighter, began to mark the occasions when Jesus was in some form of spiritual conflict.

My criteria for defining warfare was simply marking out every time the enemy tried to hurt or hinder Jesus from fulfilling His purpose. I marked out every time His life was threatened or

He was assaulted with physical violence, false accusation, slander, betrayal, plotting, traps and trickery, deceit, gossip, condemnation, intimidation, name-calling, and other forms of rejection. He also experienced what is now called “spiritual abuse” by the hands of those who were in authority. These are all the same tools the enemy uses against us today.



Once I completed the mark-up, I fanned through the four gospels with my thumb and was amazed to see how orange it was. Jesus was in constant conflict from conception to the cross.

I began to see a pattern of how the devil preferred to use those who were closest to Jesus in an effort to hurt and hinder Him. For example, he used Judas Iscariot because of his proximity to Jesus. Then, there was Peter. One minute he was speaking revelation by the Spirit and the next minute he was being used by the enemy to prevent Jesus from fulfilling His purpose.

None of us like the idea that the enemy can momentarily use those who are closest to us in order to speak aloud those things that he wants spoken, often hurting and hindering us. The fact is, the enemy wants to use the closest warm body to us to keep us from doing the will of God. He could use a family member, a friend, a pastor, or a board member, anyone who is supportive one minute and then can be pitted against us the next. He knows that this can blow us away more than if he used someone we don't know. If it happened to Jesus, why should we be surprised when it happens to us?

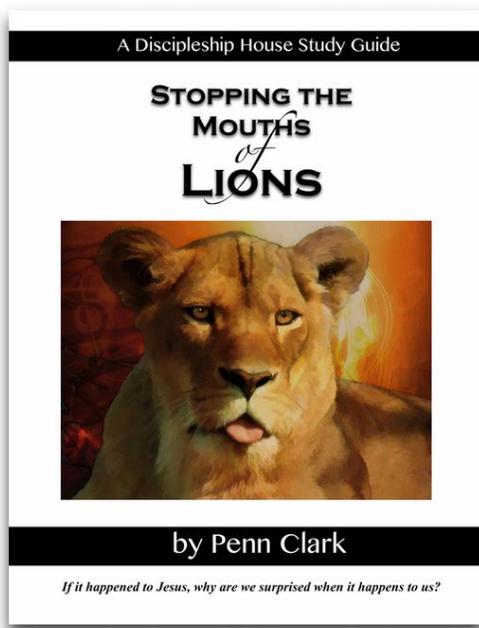
I hope this study will give you another perspective on spiritual warfare and help you to win the war the way Jesus did.

This 8.5 X 11 book is beautifully printed and is over a 100 pages in length.

This book is now available as an ebook in Spanish.

## **STOPPING THE MOUTHS OF LIONS** *The Battle for Your Heart Is in Your Head*

The apostle Peter gave a graphic reminder to pastors about our adversary, who like a roaring lion, is roaming around seeking whom he may devour. It was popular in the early 1980's to proclaim that the devil was only a "roaring" lion because Jesus had kicked out his teeth at Calvary. This was a real crowd pleaser, intended to reduce our fears that the devil could really hurt us. I understand the sentimentality behind this idea, and agree that we should not be intimidated by the devil's roar, yet this notion minimizes the fact that Peter was warning us of a very real danger. He said that the devil is seeking whom he may devour. All we have to do is look at the number of Christians who are out of the race, or how many ministers have been



removed from ministry, before we dismiss the devil as toothless. This warning clearly states that the enemy cannot devour us at will but, if we let him, he can and will. We may not always be aware that he is doing this because he tends to devour people from the inside out. Peter's description of Satan as a lion is right on and, just like this predator, his hunting strategies are ancient, predictable, and few.

When the enemy eats someone, the enemy always eats their heart first, removing their passion, zeal, and spiritual life. I have seen pastors eaten from the inside out. They go through the motions, but they have no heart for the people, the lost, or the hurting. They care more about their ministry than they care about people.

Here are some other facts about the way lions hunt:

- Lions roam the darkness where some Christians

carelessly stray.

- Lions watch for those who become isolated from the flock.
- Lions tend to prey on the young and the weak.
- Lions prey on the sick.
- They divide and conquer.

All he needs is an issue, preferably a non-essential one, which will generate enough mistrust and confusion to divide us. This study guide has an extensive question and answer section that helps clarify this unique perspective and shed even more light on the subject. There are several QR links to other on-line studies and audio files. This stud is a companion to my book "Jesus in Warfare".

This 8.5 X 11 book is beautifully printed and is over a 100 pages in length and is available as an ebook in English and Spanish.

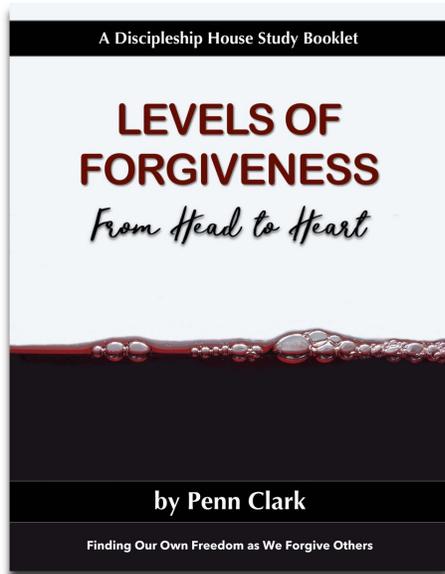
**LEVELS OF FORGIVENESS: From Head to Heart**  
*Finding Freedom from Forgiveness at Every Level*

There is nothing more central to Christianity than forgiveness, yet we fumble with it all the time. We pray the words but do not always feel like it has taken place. We are not always sure how to do it, or when the process is complete.

As I work with people, I have noted that few of us would say that we are good at the process. It certainly does not come easy, in spite of the fact that we find we need to either give it or receive it almost every day.

Wouldn't it be something if God were as tentative about forgiving us as we are about forgiving others? Or if He were as incompetent at forgiving as we often are?

I wonder if God's great ability to forgive comes from having so much practice and or if it is from having such a depth of mercy. He must scratch His head when we ask Him to help us become more like Him, but then when someone offends us, we resist the process. We are reluctant to forgive and tend to wait until we become hard and brittle. By then, it becomes very difficult. We need to realize that these opportunities to forgive are an answer to our prayers. Otherwise, we will live out our days in the shallow end of Christianity.



Forgiveness can be defined as the process of ceasing to feel resentment, indignation, or anger for a perceived offense, sin, or mistake, and ceasing to demand punishment, revenge, or restitution.

Notice that this is a process. That's been my experience as well. It usually starts as an act of obedience at a head level, doing what I know to be right and biblical. I do it because Jesus said I had to.

This little booklet is about forgiveness. There may not be anything new in here, or anything startling revelation, but I feel I need to tell the story about how God taught me some lessons about obeying His commandment to forgive in order to enter into the freedom He longed for me to enjoy. As I took the first step of obeying, I found that it led to other levels of forgiveness, some of which I had never been to before. It was in the deeper levels that I found the

most freedom. I wish this for you, as you go along the same journey that all of us have to take at some point in our Christian walk.

Part of this book is previously published, material taken from my study guides *Jesus in Warfare* and from the companion edition of *Stopping the Mouths of Lions*. I felt there

was a need for a stand-alone study on forgiveness to help those who are struggling with broken relationships and who want to recover from being abused by members of their own family and church.

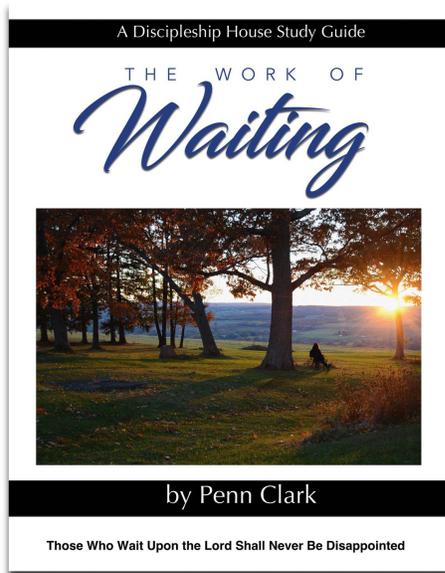
This is a 5 X 7 beautifully printed book about 60 pages in length. It is also available as an ebook in English and Spanish.

## THE WORK OF WAITING

### *Becoming Braided Together with the Lord*

Waiting makes up a large part of the Christian life. Almost all of promises and prophecies I have ever received required lots of waiting before they came to pass. For that matter, much of the time I spend in prayer is spent waiting, with very little being said on His part or felt on my part. It often feels like nothing is happening. At first, this bothered me, thinking I was giving God my valuable time, with little response on His part. In time, I began to see this differently. I learned that God does not want to be a “coke machine” where we put in the same thing in every time and immediately get what we want. Instead, He wants to transform us. In order to do this, He causes us to wait before Him where a gradual exchange takes place.

I must admit that I have struggled with prayer most of my Christian life. I would begin by telling God my agenda, carefully laying out what I expect of Him, but as I waited for a response, it would seem like nothing is happening. Then I end up doing things that would make me feel like I am accomplishing something, even though I know that it is better to abide than be busy.



As a pastor, I have noticed how people do not come into their purpose or calling because they fail to wait. Even fewer people lay hold of the gifts of the Spirit because of the lengthy process involved, which is intended that we are not only gifted but have character. There is also a gap that occurs when God begins to show us in a vision of where we can be and what we can become and where we are at the time. We lose a lot of people in the gap. They simply quit the process. For the most part, they conclude any delay is God’s way of saying no and fail to realize that having to wait is a part of the process. In this study guide we look at the lives of those in the Bible who endured long periods of waiting, to show how it is a Biblical posture, normal part of walking with God, and

how to we can learn to wait well.

This study guide is filled with practical things you can do now while you are waiting and an extensive question and answer section.

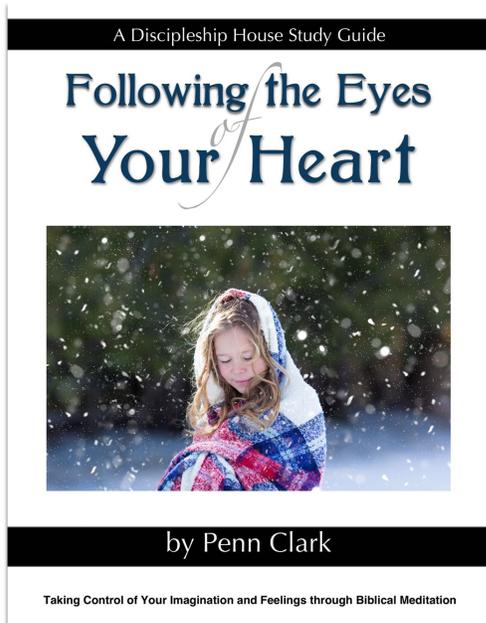
This eBook is made up of previously published material taken from my book “Welcome to the Wilderness” and “Come Aside”. I felt that the subjected was significant enough to warrant its own book. This book is about is over a 100 pages in length and is only available as an ebook in English and Spanish.

## FOLLOWING THE EYES OF YOUR HEART

### *Taking Control of Your Imagination and Feelings through Biblical Meditation*

From my childhood, I have always had an exceptionally strong imagination. It has allowed me to be visionary and creative, but it has often been hijacked by my flesh, generating a lot of fear and making it easy to slide into discouragement and depression. This has been a constant battle for me, but I have learned to get control of it through biblical meditation.

The apostle Paul prayed for the eyes of these young believers at Ephesus. He was not praying for their natural eyes, but for their spiritual ones. He obviously believed that the eyes of our hearts need to be inspired in order for us to grow spiritually. He specifically prayed for the eyes of their understanding, which has to do with their imaginations.



In this book, Penn writes about his own experience with fear and depression and the wonderful way the Lord led him out. He has been able to keep free by applying these practical principles, using any reoccurrence of fear or depression as signals that he has fallen into a negative pattern of thinking again.

While we all would like a quick and easy way out of mental oppression, God wants us to learn how to walk in love and how to apply discipline to our thought life. He wants us to learn how to use the power of biblical meditation to displace the

negative things we often focus on. He knows that what we see with the eyes of our heart affects all of our behavior.

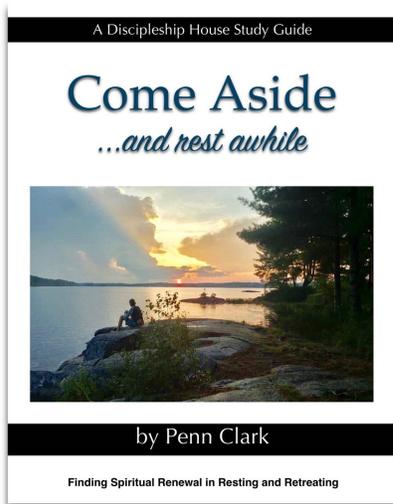
My hope in writing this Study Guide is that your eyes would be opened to the significance of the eyes of your heart, and how you need the discipline to focus them in the right direction, as they determine so much of what you get out of life.

This 8.5 X 11 book is beautifully printed and is over a 100 pages in length and is available as an ebook in English and Spanish.

**COME ASIDE**  
*...and rest awhile*

**Finding Spiritual Renewal through Resting and Retreating**

When we allow Jesus to pastor us, according to Psalm 23, one of the first things He does is makes us lie down, leading us into green pastures and beside still waters to help restore our souls. He makes us feel secure in His personal provision and care. There is a real inner rest that comes with being right with God, so He leads us into that, too. Then, He calms our fears with an assurance of His closeness. He gives us rest from our enemies, rest that permits us to comfortably eat a meal in their presence. He also anoints our heads with oil, which to me, involves soothing away the little irritants and every source of distraction that so often robs us of rest. All of this is real pastoral care. The question we should ask ourselves upon reading the psalm is, *Do I allow the Lord to pastor me this way?*



Few concepts have added as much life to my life as the idea of taking a Sabbath, which I discovered during my first year as a pastor. To this day, I am grateful to the Lord of the Sabbath, who led me into this revelation. I don't think I would have found it otherwise, in part because I hadn't come across the concept in any of the books I was reading at the time and I hadn't met a pastor who was practicing it. Sure, some pastors took days off as needed, and others practiced a Sabbath's rest in a legalistic way, but it would be a long time before I met anyone who actually observed a Sabbath in a wholesome and balanced way.

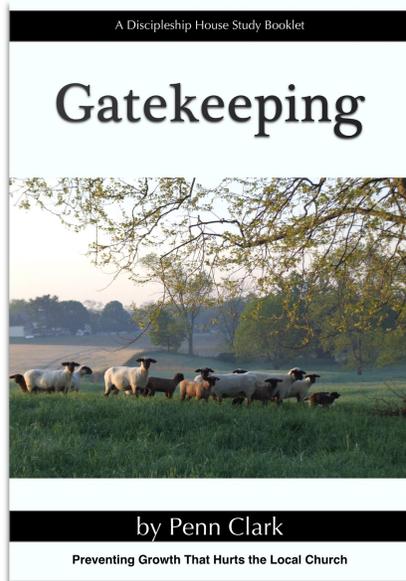
This study guide was intended to inspire us all to come aside to seek the Lord so that He can pastor us again and again. After encountering Him, we can more effectively manage the stress that so easily besets us. Learning to stop to rest and reflect is the primary way

God, as our Pastor, restores our souls. I trust this study guide will change you in your pursuit of Him and your labor to enter His rest.

It would be a good companion study to do alongside my book "Welcome to the Wilderness". This 8.5 X 11 book is beautifully printed and is about 105 pages in length and is available as an ebook in English and Spanish.

## GATE KEEPING - Preventing Growth That Hurts the Church

Today, pastors need to become more intentional about gatekeeping in order to preserve the wellbeing of the flock. To illustrate this point, I tell my story about how this practice came to be part of our lives and what happened as we tried to follow it in our churches.



The idea of gatekeeping comes from John 10, where Jesus used a term to describe how a shepherd would place himself in the doorway of the sheepfold in order to protect the flock. He alone determined who came in or went out of the fold.

For me, gatekeeping describes the process we use in our church to determine who becomes part of us or not. We don't believe our church is like a public library, where anyone can come in. We need to be more discerning about who is going to influence our people.

I have met many people who are adrift in the Body because they lost their way when they changed churches. They did it the wrong way for the wrong reasons and it cost them their spiritual growth.

While the Lord does not mind our changing churches, as it is all His Body, He does care about how and why we do it. In this book we explore the right way to change churches and give a list of reasons why we should.

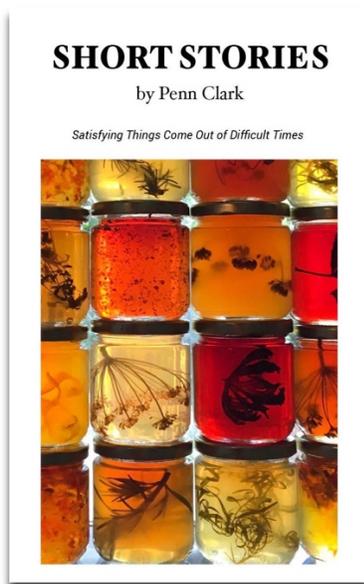
Don't change churches without reading this book first. It could save you and your family a lot of stress.

This study will also help pastors trust the Lord to grow their churches without having to resort to the kinds of things that actually hurt church growth. It also addresses the subject of church growth from a fresh Biblical point of view.

This will be printed as a 5.5 x 8 booklet with about 35 pages in length, but right now it is only available as an ebook.

## Short Stories: Satisfying Things Come Out of Difficult Times

This book contains a collection of 30 stories from my childhood and beyond. Like the jam and jelly jar photo on the cover, I have arranged these little portions of sweet things for you to taste



and enjoy. You can't make jam without going through the difficulty of picking every berry, sometimes getting scratched in the process, crushing them, putting them under some heat, stirring it often, and reducing them down to something sweet and memorable. Most of these short stories have come about that same way for me. In a sense, this represents some of the jam that has come from my life and struggles. I just want to spread it around, hoping you will taste and see how good the Lord is.

Most of these stories have been previously published in the discipleship books in our catalog, but have been adapted to this devotional. I have also written a few fresh stories just for the this edition.

It is a beautifully printed 5.5 x 8 booklet with about 150 pages. It is also available as an ebook.

**Here is a list of our books to date:**

1. Making Disciples Today
2. Cultivating Your Call
3. Cultivating The Anointing
4. Welcome to the Wilderness
5. In the Name of Jesus
6. Communion on the Moon
7. Five Keys: A Study About How To Study
8. Jesus in Warfare
9. Stopping the Mouths of Lions
10. Levels of Forgiveness
11. The Work of Waiting
12. Following the Eyes of Your Heart
13. Come Aside
14. Gatekeeping
15. Short Stories by Penn Clark

**Here is a list of other books in the works:**

1. The Day - Walking In Light of Eternity
2. Headship - God's Order For The Family And Church
3. Shipwrecked on the Way to Heaven – A 30- Day Sexual Purity Challenge
4. Real Repentance
5. Koinonia Killers
6. Dealing With Depression
7. The Freedoms and Frustrations of Delegation
8. The Importance of Impartation

9. Removing The Blocks to The Holy Spirit
10. Signs, Wonders, Divers Miracles, And Gifts of The Holy Spirit
11. A Place For Prophecy
12. Degrees of Deliverance
13. The Healing Ministry of Jesus
14. Guidelines To Guidance
15. The Meekness of God
16. Personal Revival
17. The Grace Of Giving - The Great Bottle Neck
18. Pillars of Authority
19. Breaking The Yoke Of Bondage
20. Cultivating Integrity
21. Motivation for Missions
22. Walking In Worship – David
23. The King Nobody Wanted
24. Building a Life-Giving Church

**OTHER BOOKS**

Cartoon Books  
Finney Revival Tour  
Short Stories by Penn Clark  
Short Stories of My Missions  
Short Stories From Church History  
Short Stories That Preach

**BIBLE STUDY GROUP DISCOUNT** If you want to study a book as a small group or Bible Study, and order 5 or more, we will give you a discount.

**INVEST IN SOMEONE** When I was a young disciple someone from church bought me an entire series of books. It really blessed me. You can do the same thing, and we will help by giving you a discount on our entire series of books. Just write us an email and we will work with you to invest in someone's spiritual life.

**DONATE A BOOK TO YOUR CHURCH LIBRARY** Just let us know if you would like to donate a set of our books to your church library and we will give you a special rate.

**SET UP A BOOK TABLE AT YOUR CHURCH OR SPECIAL EVENT** After you get permission from your pastor, we will stock a book table for you to manage at your church or special event. Just email us and we will work with you to get these books into your sphere of influence.

### **ABOUT PENN CLARK**

Penn and Heather Clark left their native Canada with a missionary visa to help start a church in northern New York, where they pastored for more than twenty-one years. Penn formed Word of Grace Network, an apostolic fellowship of like-minded ministers committed to world missions, raising up the next generation of leaders, and equipping others to advance the Kingdom of God.



The Lord has sent Penn to some of the neediest places on Earth, where he has taught and trained leaders, helped start churches, and enabled the poor to help themselves. Penn's ministry is based in Penn Yan, New York, at WellSpring Fellowship, a church he helped start in the beautiful Finger Lakes region.

### **ABOUT WORDSMITH**

There are many different kinds of smiths in the world. There are blacksmiths, tinsmiths, and goldsmiths, but what vocation can be higher than to be able to spend one's life working with words? Words can be wrought in such a way as to change an individual's life. Beyond this, consider the enormous privilege of spending a lifetime handling God's Word, which transforms and enriches lives. Furthermore, it inspires us to love God for all eternity. What can be more valuable than that which has been wrought by God's Word?

Wordsmith Study Booklets were originally written for those in our local church who were in leadership or were preparing for the ministry. In time, I began to print them in a newsletter format, sending them out to various church leaders and those who prayed for my ministry.

When the internet became available, I decided it would be more expedient to publish Wordsmith online. Over the years, this has been a proven way to invest in the lives of those who are in ministry or are being trained for it.

To learn more about Penn, go to [www.penn-clark.com](http://www.penn-clark.com) or find him on Facebook. To learn more about Wordsmith Publishing, go to [www.wordsmith-py.com](http://www.wordsmith-py.com)

